

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Applicant: Kosche et al.	
App. No.: 10/840,164	Conf. No.: 7512
Filed: May 6, 2004	Art Unit: 2192
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROFILING DATA ADDRESSES	Examiner: Tecklu, Isaac T.

PROPOSED CLAIMS FOR EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Submitted Via Email to Isaac.techlu@uspto.gov

Sir:

Applicant (hereafter "Appellant") hereby submits these proposed claims pursuant to a phone conference with Examiner on June 25, 2010.

1. (Currently Amended) A tangible non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising a computer-implemented software profiling tool that determines at least one data address from one or more instruction instances, and that identifies one or more memory reference objects, which are associated with the data address, as hindering execution of code that includes the instruction instances, wherein the instruction instances correspond to the code execution hindrance, wherein the memory reference objects include virtually addressable memory, the profiling tool aggregates addresses based on the memory reference objects and provides the aggregated addresses and an indication of the code execution hindrance corresponding to the aggregated addresses for one or more of storage and display.

2. The software profiling tool of claim 1 wherein the memory reference objects include one or more of physical memory reference objects and logical memory reference objects.

3. The software profiling tool of claim 2 wherein the memory reference objects include one or more of a cache, cache lines, cache levels, cache sub-blocks, memory controllers, addressable memory, and memory-management page translation units.

4. (Cancelled)

5. The software profiling tool of claim 2 wherein the logical memory reference objects include one or more of source-level data objects, memory segments, heap variables, variable instances, and stack variables.

6. The software profiling tool of claim 5 wherein the source-level data objects include one or more of functions, statically linked objects, data structures, data types, data type definitions, operands, and expressions.

7. The software profiling tool of claim 6 wherein the statically linked objects include one or more of global variables and static variables.

8. The software profiling tool of claim 1 wherein the software tool includes one or more of a compiler, an interpreter, an optimization tool, and a virtual machine.

9. The software profiling tool of claim 1 wherein the code includes one or more of machine code, byte code, and interpreted code.

10. (Cancelled)

11. The software profiling tool of claim 10 wherein the software tool utilizes at least a portion of the data addresses to aggregate the addresses.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. The software profiling tool of claim 1 wherein the code execution hindrance corresponds to one or more sampled runtime events.

15. The software profiling tool of claim 14 wherein the sampled runtime events include one or more of cache misses, cache references, data translation buffer misses, data translation buffer references, and counter condition events.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for profiling code executing in a computer system, the method comprising:

a processor and a storage medium including programmed instructions for:
identifying an instruction instance that corresponds to a runtime event;
determining a data address from the instruction instance; [[and]]
determining a memory reference object from the determined address;
wherein the data address includes a virtual address in the computer system;
aggregating a plurality of addresses that include the determined address, based on
the memory reference object; and
providing the aggregated plurality of addresses for one or more of display, storage,
and manipulation.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the runtime event is a sampled runtime event.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein identifying the instruction instance comprises backtracking from a second instruction instance to the instruction instance.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein determining the address from the instruction instance comprises decoding the instruction instance.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising:
decoding the instruction instance if a register that hosts the instruction instance is determined as valid.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein determining if the register is valid comprises:
applying reverse register transformation with respect to the runtime event; and
determining whether the register is valid based on the applied reverse register transformation.

22. The method of claim 16 wherein the memory reference object includes a physical memory reference object or a logical memory reference object.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein the physical memory reference object includes cache, a cache line, a cache sub-block, a cache level, a memory controller, or a memory-management page translation unit.

24. The method of claim 16 wherein the logical memory reference object includes a source-level data object, a memory segment, a heap variable, or a stack variable.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the source-level data object includes a data type, a data type definition, a statically linked object, an operand, a data structure, or an expression.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the statically linked object includes a global variable or a static variable.

27. The method of claim 16 wherein the instruction instances include memory accessing instructions.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[29]] 16 wherein the aggregating of the plurality of addresses utilizes at least a portion of the addresses.

31. (Cancelled)

32. The method of claim 16 embodied as a computer program product encoded on one or more machine-readable physical storage media.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of profiling code executing in a computer system, the method comprising:

using a processor and a memory, associating data addresses with memory reference objects, wherein the data addresses have been determined from instruction instances corresponding to code execution hindrance; [[and]]

aggregating the data addresses based on their associated memory reference objects; and

providing the aggregated data addresses for one or more of display, storage, and manipulation;

wherein the data addresses include virtual addresses in the computer system.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein the instruction instances include memory accessing instructions.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein the code execution hindrance corresponds to one or more runtime events.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein the runtime events are sampled runtime events.

37. The method of claim 35 wherein the runtime events include one or more of counter condition events, cache misses, cache references, data translation buffer references, and data translation buffer misses.

38. (Cancelled)

39. The method of claim 33 wherein said aggregating utilizes at least a portion of the data addresses.

40. The method of claim 33 embodied as a computer program product encoded on one or more machine-readable physical storage media.

41. (Currently Amended) A method of profiling code in a computer system comprising:

in the computer system including at least one processor and at least one non-transitory storage media, identifying an instruction instance corresponding to a runtime event;

determining whether the instruction instance is valid;

decoding the instruction instance to extract at least a portion of a data address if the instruction instance is valid;

determining a memory reference object with the extracted portion of the address;

[[and]]

aggregating the data address with other addresses based at least in part on the memory reference object, wherein the memory reference object includes virtual addresses in the computer system; and

providing the aggregated data addresses for one or more of display, storage, and manipulation.

42. The method of claim 41 further comprising associating the extracted portion of the data address with the memory reference object.

43. (Cancelled)

44. The method of claim 41 wherein the runtime event is a sampled runtime event.

45. The method of claim 41 further comprising:
applying reverse register transformation with respect to the runtime event to determine if the instruction instance is valid.

46. The method of claim 41 embodied as a computer program product encoded on one or more machine-readable physical storage media.

47. A non-transitory computer program product for profiling code, encoded on one or more machine-readable physical storage media, the computer program product, which when executed, performs operations comprising:

identifying a valid instruction instance that corresponds to a runtime event;
determining a data address from the identified valid instruction instance;
determining a memory reference object with the determined data address; [[and]]
aggregating a set of addresses, which include the determined data address, based at least in part on the memory reference object, wherein the memory reference objects include virtually addressable memory; and
providing the aggregated set of addresses for one or more of display, storage, and manipulation.

48. The computer program product of claim 47 wherein the operations further comprise associating the determined data address with the memory reference object.

49. The computer program product of claim 47 wherein the operations further comprise:

applying reverse register transformation with respect to the runtime event; and
determining if the instruction instance is valid from the applied reverse register transformation.

50. The computer program product of claim 47 wherein the memory reference object includes a physical memory reference object or a logical memory reference object.

51. (Cancelled)

52. The computer program product of claim 50 wherein the logical memory reference object includes a source-level data object, a memory segment, a heap variable, a variable instance, and a stack variable.

53. The computer program product of claim 52 wherein the source-level data object includes a data type, a data type definition, an operand, a statically linked object, a data structure, or an expression.

54. The computer program product of claim 53 wherein the statically linked object includes a global variable or a static variable.

55. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a processor;
memory; and

means for identifying a memory reference object and identifying a data address corresponding thereto from an instruction instance that corresponds to one or more runtime events, and aggregating a set of addresses that include the data address, based at least in part on the memory reference object, wherein the memory reference object includes virtually addressable memory; and

means for providing the aggregated addresses and an indication of code execution hindrance corresponding to the aggregated addresses for one or more of storage and display.

56. The apparatus of claim 55 wherein the memory reference object includes a physical memory reference object or a logical memory reference object.

57. (Cancelled)

58. The apparatus of claim 56 wherein the processor includes event condition counters.